

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. – 18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) A diffuser for placement in front of a sound wave emission side of a cone-shaped sound source, the diffuser comprising:

a flow plate positioned along a sound wave emission direction of the sound source, the flow plate having a wall tapered inwardly in the sound wave emission direction, ~~and the wall of the flow plate being positioned outside of an area defined by the cone-shaped sound source~~ and dimensioned so as to allow sound waves emitted from the cone-shaped sound source to pass on both sides of the wall.

20. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 19, wherein the flow plate is a tapered cone shape.

21. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 19, wherein the flow plate is an inner flow plate and the diffuser further comprises an outer flow plate positioned along the sound wave emission direction.

22. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 21, wherein the inner flow plate is a tapered cone.

23. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 22, wherein the outer flow plate has a first opening proximal to the sound source and a second opening distal from the sound source, the first opening being smaller than the second opening.

24. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 19, wherein the flow plate includes at least two spaced apart plates, inclined towards each other.

25. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 21, wherein the inner flow plate includes at least two spaced apart plates, inclined towards each other.

26. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 25, wherein the outer flow plate includes at least two spaced apart plates, inclined away from each.

27. (Previously presented) The diffuser according to claim 19, wherein the flow plate is a first flow plate and the diffuser further comprises a second flow plate, the second flow plate positioned adjacent the first flow plate along the sound wave emission direction of the sound source, the second flow plate having a wall tapered inwardly in the sound wave emission direction.

28. (Currently amended) A diffuser for placement in front of a sound wave emission side of a cone-shaped sound source, the diffuser comprising:

a flow plate positioned along a sound wave emission direction of the sound source, the flow plate having a first opening proximal to the sound source and a second opening distal from the sound source, the first opening being larger than the second opening, ~~and~~ the first opening of the flow plate being positioned outside of an area defined by the cone-shaped sound source, and the flow plate being dimensioned so as to allow sound waves emitted from the cone-shaped sound source to pass on both sides of the wall.

29. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 28, wherein the flow plate is a tapered cone shape.

30. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 28, wherein the flow plate is an inner flow plate and the diffuser further comprises an outer flow plate positioned along the sound wave emission direction.

31. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 30, wherein the inner flow plate is a tapered cone.

32. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 31, wherein the outer flow plate has a first opening proximal to the sound source and a second opening distal from the sound source, the first opening being smaller than the second opening.

33. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 28, wherein the flow plate includes at least two spaced apart plates, inclined towards each other.

34. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 30, wherein the inner flow plate includes at least two spaced apart plates, inclined towards each other.

35. (Previously presented) The diffuser as claimed in claim 34, wherein the outer flow plate includes at least two spaced apart plates, inclined away from each.

36. (Previously presented) The diffuser according to claim 28, wherein the flow plate is a first flow plate and the diffuser further comprises a second flow plate, the second flow plate positioned adjacent the first flow plate along the sound wave emission direction of the sound source, the second flow plate having a first opening proximal to the sound source and a second opening distal from the sound source, the first opening being larger than the second opening.

37. (Previously presented) A speaker comprising:
a sound source having a sound wave emission side; and
a diffuser according to claim 19 located in front of the sound wave emission side of the sound source.

38. (Previously presented) The speaker according to claim 37, further comprising a protective net disposed in front of the sound wave emission side of the sound source, the diffuser being fixed to the protective net.

39. (Previously presented) The speaker according to claim 38, wherein the diffuser is fixed in front of the protective net, behind the protective net, or both in front of and behind the protective net.

40. (Previously presented) A speaker comprising:
a sound source having a sound wave emission side; and

a diffuser according to claim 28 located in front of the sound wave emission side of the sound source.

41. (Previously presented) The speaker according to claim 40, further comprising a protective net disposed in front of the sound wave emission side of the sound source, the diffuser being fixed to the protective net.

42. (Previously presented) The speaker according to claim 41, wherein the diffuser is fixed in front of the protective net, behind the protective net, or both in front of and behind the protective net.